

Orissa and Rajasthan for this work and the Minister has replied that the Union Government and the State Governments bear expenditure on this work in 2:1 ratio. Hon. Speaker, Sir, in the recent report of C.A.G. it is clearly written that the money given to Bihar Government under this head by Government of India has been cent percent diverted to other heads. When this amount has been misutilised in other heads by the Bihar Government, I would like to know whether this fact has been brought to the notice of Hon. Minister and whether hon. Minister wants to give cent-percent grant to Bihar state to get rid of the financial constraints?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I have not received the C & AG's report. After receiving it, I will go through it and take necessary action. I will write to the State Government for necessary action.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister this thing? I have gone through a small book written by Planning Commission where they have said that allocation to the education sector of GNP or GDP ratio is much higher in our country compared to other developing countries including China. The allocation is higher, but the literacy rate going up is much lower than other countries. Is it that the money is being spent more on infrastructure, or is it that the money is again being misused in some other form? Because if we see the allocation which is higher, then the rate must also go higher. What is Government's view on this subject?

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : The most important reason is the increase in the growth of population. China has reduced its population for the last 20 years. That is the main reason...*(Interruptions)* The population growth rate is coming down in China. We will be having a population of more than China by the end of this century. That is one reason. As you say, in some cases, the money is not properly utilised also. I must admit it. The State Governments are not coming forward to contribute their share. Unless there is a proper coordination among the States, the Centre, NGOs, the voluntary organizations and the Panchayats, we will not be able to do full justice. Why is it successful in Kerala and in most of the Southern States? Why is there failure in the Hindi belt only? It is because of the general awakening, voluntary organization, social reform as well as cooperation between the States and the Central Government which is necessary. Therefore, I am rethinking as to what to do. This Committee has given certain proposals. I am placing it before the Cabinet.

Trade Treaty Between India and Nepal

*207. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty which has been renewed recently;

(b) whether as a result of the trade treaty, free entry for Nepalese export is allowed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The three main features of the Treaty are :

- (i) removal of material content requirement for duty free entry of Nepalese articles into India;
- (ii) rationalisation of countervailing duty structure in respect of Nepalese goods manufactured in small scale units; and
- (iii) provision of automatic renewal of the Treaty after 5 December, 2001, for further period (s) of five years.

Articles of Nepalese manufacture except alcoholic liquor, perfumes and cosmetics of non-Nepalese/non-Indian brands and cigarettes/tobacco, will be allowed preferential entry into India.

Nepal has been having a trade deficit with India for a long time. The agreed changes would increase bilateral trade, offer a chance for achieving a greater trade balance, as well as enable Nepal, a close and friendly neighbouring country, to offer a greater range of articles of Nepalese manufacture.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to say that under the new trade agreement between India and Nepal, the Government of India has allowed duty free entry of goods imported from Nepal. So, I would like to know whether Nepal has also allowed duty free entry of Indian goods in Nepal?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : The new agreement that the Government of India and the Government of Nepal have signed gives considerable concessions to the Government of Nepal and this is a part of our policy. So far as Indian goods going to Nepal are concerned, I will not be able to give the details just now and I will need notice for it.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that besides Nepalese goods, the goods of other countries can also be imported to India in the name of Nepal. I would like to ask whether Indian Government have made any provision to check such things?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : The agreement clearly lays down that a certificate has to be produced about the origin and the contents. The details are given in the statement itself.

MR. SPEAKER : Qn. 208. Shri D.P. Yadav is absent.

Indian Museum, Calcutta

+

*209. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that funds crunch is causing immense hardships for the Indian museum, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to act fast and allot required quantum of funds to salvage the damage;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Indian Museum, which is one of the oldest Museums of India, has been getting a substantial grant from the Government of India which has grown over the years as would be revealed from the following figures for the last five years :

	(Rupees in lakhs)
1992-93	Rs. 120.60
1993-94	Rs. 313.00
1994-95	Rs. 312.45
1995-96	Rs. 319.05
1996-97	Rs. 319.05

Besides, the Museum has its own sources of income in the shape of entrance fee, sale of publications, sale of replicas etc., and various fees for use of auditorium and other facilities in the Museum.

For the current year a total provision of Rs. 319.05 lakhs have been made for the Indian Museum out of which Rs. 189.29 lakhs has already been released and the balance would be released before the expiry of the current financial year subject to audit verification etc.

[Translation]

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Mr. Speaker, Sir the condition of National Museums is deteriorating due to lack of funds. In this connection the Minister has replied that the Government is giving funds. But the amount the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 is the same. If adequate

funds are not provided and its monitoring is not done scientifically then the museum will face destruction.

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMALI : So far as the Museum is concerned, there is no dearth of funds. Not only is the Government giving sufficient funds, but they are also generating their own funds. In fact, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that as on 31.3.1996, the Museum had an unspent balance of Rs. 138.02 lakh out of which Rs. 53.71 lakh was earmarked for the construction of the annexe building. Not only have they got an unspent amount, but they are getting funds through the entrance fees and by other means. They are generating their own income. They have got sufficient money.

[Translation]

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, all the paintings and ancient relics and remains of Indus Valley Civilization, are getting destroyed. The hon. Minister has said that some funds remained unspent. The hon. Minister must think about this that why this money has not been spent. Proper steps should be taken to check the damage causing to the museum and restoring its originality?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BOMMALI : If a proposal for higher funds comes, the Government would sympathetically consider it and try to help them.

[Translation]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Hon. Minister has told that there is no dearth of funds but as far as I know, the expects committee has recommended that it should be made fully air-conditioned. At present only a small portion of museum is air-conditioned. The entire museum is not air-conditioned as a result of which the ancient objects and archeological remains are getting destroyed. I would like to know. Whether it is known to the hon. Minister or not? When funds are available then why it is not being made air-conditioned. I would like to know whether government will like same steps for making it air conditioned or not and the time by which the museum will be made fully air-conditioned?

Secondly, many new ancient and archeological remains are to be displayed in the museum but due to paucity of funds they still lying at other places and getting destroyed. So I would like to ask as to what arrangement are being made by the Government. In display them in the museum? In excavation we are getting many important objects and remains which are to be displayed in the museum. So I would like to know as to what arrangement is being made by the Government to install them in the museum?